

REMARKS

Claims 1-59 are pending. In the present Response, Claims 1-10 and 32-59 are canceled without prejudice, thereby leaving Claims 11-31 unchanged.

The Examiner indicated that the application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct inventions:

I. Claims 1-10, 32-40, and 50-59, drawn to a commodity monitoring network with a gateway node having a network handler to verify sender data, classified in class 340, subclass 870.02;

II. Claims 11-31, drawn to a commodity monitoring network with a gateway node having a programmable controller for processing channel selection functions, classified in class 340, subclass 870.12; and

III. Claims 41-49, drawn to a commodity monitoring network with a gateway node having a scheduler, classified in class 340, subclass 870.13.

Applicants are required to elect a single invention. By this Response, Applicants respectfully elect, without traverse, Invention II relating to Claims 11-31 and cancel Claims 1-10 and 32-59 relating to Inventions II and III without prejudice.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the non-elected Inventions II and III and other aspects of the application in one or more divisional patent applications if the restriction requirement is upheld.

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present amendment and examination on the merits of the elected Claims 11-31 are respectfully requested.

The undersigned is available for telephone consultation during normal business hours.

Respectfully submitted,

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